

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 205807

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

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S/S TRPICKERING

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO USNMR SHAPE

CINCEUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 205807

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, SP, XF

SUBJ: USE OF SPANISH BASES IN MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

REF: MADRID 5933

1. FYI. USG HAS NO PRESENT PLANS FOR USE SPANISH BASES IN CONNECTION WITH MIDDLE EAST OTHER THAN AERIAL REFUELING FROM TORREJON OR POSSIBLE LEGITIMATE EMERGENCY LANDING BOTH OF WHICH WE REGARD AS NORMAL OPERATIONAL PRACTICES. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT WISH TO FORECLOSE IN ADVANCE POSSIBILITY THAT WE MAY REQUEST SOME ADDITIONAL USE AND THEREFORE WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE A "STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE". END FYI.

2. AFTER HAVING TRANSMITTED LETTER REGARDING TANKERS AND F-4S (PARA 9 OF REFTTEL) YOU SHOULD SEE LOPEZ RODO AND SPEAK TO HIM ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 205807

(A) USG HAS TAKEN NOTE OF CONSIDERATIONS SET FORTH

BY LOPEZ RODO AND THE PRESIDENT WILL, OF COURSE, BE
RESPONDING TO GENERAL FRANCO.

(B) GOS MUST UNDERSTAND REASONS FOR THE COURSE WE
ARE FOLLOWING. WHILE WE WERE ENGAGED IN AN INTENSIVE
DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO BRING AN END TO HOSTILITIES,
SOVIETS TOOK INITIATIVES IN LAUNCHING MASSIVE AIRLIFT

OF ARMS TO SYRIA, EGYPT AND IRAQ. AS OF OCTOBER 16
NUMBER OF FLIGHTS AMOUNTED TO SOME 400 CARRYING OVER
5,000 TONS OF MATERIEL. THIS MASSIVE INTERVENTION
BY THE SOVIETS HAS OBLIGED US TO BEGIN A RESUPPLY EFFORT
FOR ISRAEL. WE DO NOT INTEND TO ALLOW SOVIE UNION
TO DETERMINE THE OUTCOME OF PRESENT SITUATION. WE
INTEND TO MAINTAIN MILITARY BALANCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST
AND WILL NOT REMAIN PASSIVE IN THE FACE OF THIS SOVIET
ADVENTURISM.

(C) WE VIEW RE-
SUPPLY EFFORT AS NECESSARY IF US TO REMAIN IN POSITION
TO USE US INFLUENCE TO WORK FOR A JUST AND LASTING
SETTLEMENT IN MIDDLE EAST ONCE HOSTILITIES END.

(D) WE CONSIDER THAT WHAT WE ARE DOING TO MAINTAIN
BALANCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS NOT IN OUR INTERESTS ALONE
BUT IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL OUR FRIENDS AND PARTICULARLY
THOSE, LIKE SPAIN, THAT ARE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN AREA. WE BELIEVE THAT SPAIN SHOULD CON-
SIDER WITH THE UTMOST GRAVITY WHAT CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE
FOR HER SHOULD SOVIETS SUCCEED IN THEIR PRESENT ADVENTURE.
WE ARE CONVINCED THAT IF OUR EFFORTS ARE SUCCESSFUL THE
ARABS WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THEY MUST DEAL WITH THE US IN
ACHIEVING A SETTLEMENT. GOS MAY BE SURE THAT AN END
TO THE FIGHTING WILL OPEN THE WAY FOR ANOTHER ATTEMPT
TO OBTAIN A LASTING PEACE.

(E) WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC REQUEST TO MAKE OF THE GOS
AT THIS TIME. WHAT WE PRESENTLY SEEK IS SUPPORT AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 205807

UNDERSTANDING FOR WHAT WE ARE ENDEAVORING TO DO AND A
RECOGNITION BY THE GOS THAT A TOTALLY INWARD LOOKING
ATTITUDE ON THEIR PART IS NOT A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION AT
BEST IN THE MIDDLE EAST. POSITIONS AND ATTITUDES
WHICH GOS MAY TAKE AT THIS TIME CANNOT HELP BUT HAVE
AN EFFECT ON OUR FUTURE RELATIONS. WHILE WE DO INDEED
HOPE FOR AN UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDE OF GOS, THERE MUST
BE NO DOUBT THAT WE HAVE EVERY INTENTION OF PURSUING

OUR PRESENT COURSE.

3. WITH REGARD TO PROPOSAL FOR "EXTRAORDINARY AND URGENT MEETING" OF JOINT COMMITTEE, YOU SHOULD TELL LOPEZ RODO THAT IN LIGHT OF FULL STATEMENT OF USG POSITION YOU HAVE JUST MADE AND LETTER WHICH YOU HAVE SENT HIM, USG PERCEIVES NO NEED FOR SUCH A MEETING. IF HE INSISTS HOWEVER YOU MAY AGREE TO SUCH MEETING BUT YOU SHOULD PLACE HIM ON NOTICE THAT YOU HAVE NOTHING

TO ADD TO THE STATEMENT YOU HAVE JUST MADE.

4. FYI. WE FULLY RECOGNIZE THE DIFFICULT SITUATION ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS PLACE YOU IN BUT SERIOUSNESS OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AND OBJECTIVE OF OUR RESUPPLY EFFORT REQUIRE THAT ALL POSSIBLE OPTIONS REMAIN OPEN TO BRING OUR EFFORTS TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. WE THEREFORE MUST TAKE THE RISK OF PROVOKING GOS IRE WHILE AT SAME TIME FORCING GOS TO DECIDE HOW FAR IT WISHES TO GO IN FRUSTRATING OUR EFFORTS, THUS ADVERSELY AFFECTING US-SPANISH RELATIONS.

5. WE ARE PREPARING A DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL REPLY WHICH MAY EMBODY SOME OF THE GENERAL POINTS CONTAINED
PARA 2. KISSINGER

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